

rebate 120 and venting aperture 22 are preferably totally circumscribed by the portion of seal 100 which encloses empty area 112 when the lid 10 is in the closed position. When the lid is rotated towards the open position from the closed position, the rebate 120 clears the empty area 112 first. This provides a small, indirect venting pathway from inside the vessel 12 to outside of the vessel to gently release any such pressure.

A marked up copy is attached in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(iii).

In the Claims:

Please amend claims 1, 5, 6, 15, and 16 as follows:

1. (Amended) A selectively openable lid for a drinking vessel, comprising:

a circular base member having mounting means thereon for removably connecting the base member to a drinking vessel, the base member further having a downwardly depending base member side wall defining a depressed floor region having upper and lower surfaces and drinking and venting apertures, wherein an inwardly directed surface of the side wall has a plurality of opposed bayonet ears thereon;

a circular cap member for rotational engagement with the base member, the cap member having a downwardly depending cap member side wall defining a depressed drinking basin having upper and lower surfaces and drinking and venting apertures positioned and sized so as to correspond to the drinking and venting apertures in the base member, wherein an outwardly

directed surface of the cap member side wall has a plurality of opposed bayonet ears thereon positioned and sized for corresponding engagement with the bayonet ears on the base member;

first seal means between the cap and base members for forming a fluid conduit between the corresponding drinking and venting apertures when said apertures are out of respective rotational registration with one another, so that interstitial areas between the cap and base members are fluidly isolated from the apertures and remain substantially uncontaminated by drinking fluid from the drinking vessel when the cap member is in a first, closed position; and,

second seal means between the cap and base members for forming a fluid barrier between the corresponding drinking and venting apertures when the cap member is in a second, open position and said apertures are in respective rotational registration with one another, so that the interstitial areas between the cap and base members are fluidly isolated from the base member apertures and remain substantially uncontaminated by drinking fluid from the drinking vessel when the cap member is in the second, open position.

5. (Amended) The selectively openable lid of Claim 2, wherein the timing means includes a detent structure between the stop projections to discourage inadvertent relative rotation of the cap and base members from the first, closed position to the third, disengaged position.

6. (Amended) The selectively openable lid of Claim 5, wherein the detent structure is a ramp member having reduced resistance to relative clockwise rotation of the cap and base members from the third, disengaged position to the first, closed position as compared to relative counter clockwise rotation of the cap and base members from the first, closed position to the third, disengaged position.

15. (Amended) The selectively openable lid of Claim 12, wherein the timing means includes a detent structure between the stop projections to discourage inadvertent relative rotation of the cap and base members from the first, closed position to the third disengaged position.

16. (Amended) The selectively openable lid of Claim 15, wherein the detent structure is a ramp member having reduced resistance to relative clockwise rotation of the cap and base members from the third, disengaged position to the first, closed position as compared to relative counter clockwise rotation of the cap and base members from the first, closed position to the third, disengaged position.

A marked up copy of the amended claims is also attached in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(ii).

REMARKS

Examiner Robin Hoylton has rejected claims 1 through 21 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first and second paragraphs, for indefiniteness. Due to a typographical error, "first, closed